REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-6, 8 and 16-18 stand in the present application, claims 16 and 17 having been amended. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 2, 8, 16 and 17 as being anticipated by Grantges, has rejected claims 3, 6 and 18 as being obvious over Grantges in view of Gupta et al, has rejected claim 4 as being obvious in view of Grantges and Nishizawa et al, and has rejected claim 5 as being obvious over Grantges in view of Osterman. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's § 102 and 103 rejections of the claims.

The Examiner asserts that in Grantges the message 74 which includes an authentication cookie 90 and an applications list cookie (92) from the Gateway Proxy Server 40, via the DMZ Proxy server, to the Web browser 22, can be viewed as a type of "notification." Applicants respectfully submit that such a strained reading of Grantges is improper ands that it is, therefore, unreasonable to take this view as Applicants' claim wording actually states in full "the gateway including notification means for notifying one or more of the application hosting sub-systems that it should initiate a secure authenticated connection with the gateway when the notification means is requested so to do by any of the services offered by the first sub-system."

Even assuming *arguendo* (which Applicants do not believe to be the case) that one could view the message 74 as being a bit like a notification as claimed in that it "instructs" the web

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browser to set up a secure connection with the Gateway Web Server 44, which is basically similar to Applicants' claimed "gateway," and that one could view the first part of the claimed feature quoted above before the word "when" to be anticipated by Grantges, the message 74 is not generated in response to a request from the any one of the Applications (App. 1, App. 2, App.3) of Grantges, but in response to a request issued from the DMZ proxy server which itself was initiated as a result of receiving a request from the web browser 22 for connection to the system 20 as a whole. Thus, the last part of the quoted claimed feature starting at "when . . . " is not anticipated by Grantges at all.

In any event, Applicants have amended independent claims 16 and 17 to emphasize this distinction over Grantges. These amendments clearly distinguish the present inventions over Grantges since in Grantges the connections between the web browser 22 and the system 20 (including DMZ Proxy server 24 and the Application Gateway 38, etc.) are always initiated by the web browser. There is no capability for the system 20 to initiate a connection of any sort to the web browser but rather must always use a connection initiated by the web browser. Thus the message 74 is passed to the DMZ Proxy server 34 before being forwarded by the DMZ Proxy server 24 to the web browser via the connection (over the insecure network 26) initiated by Web browser 22 with message 64.

In summary, the message 74 is not really a notification message in the sense in which the term is used in the present application to mean something initiated independently of the application hosting sub-system, rather message 74 in Grantges is really just a part of the

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authentication process within the procedure of setting up a secure authenticated connection initiated by the web-browser (corresponding to the application hosting sub-system of the present application). The above claim amendments make explicit this property of the notification message in the sense that they require that the notification means initiate the connection over which the notification is made.

Accordingly, independent claims 16 and 17 and their respective dependent claims patentably define over Grantges. It should also be clear that the secondary references do not solve the deficiencies noted above with respect to Grantges. Thus, all of claims 2-6, 8 and 16-18 patentably define over the cited art taken singly or in any combination.

Therefore, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all of claims 2-6, 8 and 16-18, standing in the application, be allowed and that the case be passed to issue. If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes to be resolved by either a supplemental response or

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Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone exchange indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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